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# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 8, 2010

## **VA Black Hills Health Care System Offers Options for Veteran Outpatient Care in Alliance, NE**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Black Hills Health Care System (VABHHCS) has completed the process of evaluating our ability to provide quality primary and mental health outpatient care to Veterans served through our Alliance, Nebraska Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC).

To best serve the needs of our Alliance area Veterans, VABHHCS will close the Alliance CBOC effective November 8, 2010 and will offer the following options to ensure a smooth transition of services for each Veteran who previously received primary and mental health care through our Alliance CBOC:

With the opening of a 5-day a week clinic in Scottsbluff, NE on March 1, 2010 and the conversion of the Gordon, NE CBOC to a 5-day a week clinic on July 12, 2010 Veterans living in the northwest area of Nebraska now have much greater access to VA primary care services. VABHHCS now offers the following three options for Veterans:

Scottsbluff, NE VA CBOC, operated by STGi International, Inc. (54 miles from Alliance) – offers five day-a-week access to primary care. Via contract with VABHHCS, STGi will provide ‘no-cost’ transportation to all Veterans two days per week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from Alliance to Scottsbluff; Veterans should call 308-220-3930 to obtain further information. Veterans may also arrange their own transportation on any of the clinic’s days of operation and, if travel reimbursement eligible, may seek payment as appropriate.

Gordon, NE VA CBOC, operated by Gordon Memorial Hospital (72 miles from Alliance) – offers five day-a-week access to primary care. No transportation contract is planned; Veterans may seek travel reimbursement as appropriate.

Hot Springs, SD VA Medical Center (109 miles from Alliance) – offers five day-a-week access to VA primary care and other support services. No transportation contract is planned; Veterans may seek travel reimbursement as appropriate.

“VA Black Hills Health Care System continues to monitor the quality of care we provide for all of our Nebraska Veterans,” said Peter Henry, Director VABHHCS. “We believe offering care for our Alliance Veterans in Scottsbluff, Gordon or Hot Springs offers our Veterans higher quality care, better access and an environment more consistent with modern health care needs and opportunities than the previous location open only two days each month.”

VA Black Hills Health Care System staff will also contact Veterans to reschedule any upcoming appointments, send all enrolled Veterans living in the Alliance area a letter to inform them of changes and provide them with a point of contact for scheduling appointments.

To schedule an appointment at the above locations, please call 800-764-5370, select option #2 or call 605-745-2808. Veterans or family members with concerns regarding the Alliance Clinic transition may contact Clyde Walton, Patient Advocate at 605-720-7179.

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